

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to Claim 7, wherein the water-soluble film forming agent is gum arabic.

4. (Previously Presented): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to Claim 7, wherein the composition further comprises a powder vehicle.

5. (Previously Presented): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to Claim 7, wherein the composition shows the behavior of release wherein the releasing ratio of the volatile oily antibacterial substance at 100% humidity is 1.5 times or more than the releasing ratio of the volatile oily antibacterial substance at 75% humidity.

6. (Currently Amended-Withdrawn): A process for producing a humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition according to claim 7, in which the behavior of release of a volatile oily antibacterial substance is changed depending on humidity, characterized in that a water-soluble film forming agent optionally together with a powder vehicle is dissolved and/or dispersed in water, subsequently a volatile oily antibacterial substance optionally together with

an emulsifying agent is added to the solution and emulsified, and thereafter the obtained emulsion is spray dried into powder.

7. (Currently Amended): A humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article carrying comprising:

a humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition, said humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition comprising:

a volatile oily antibacterial substance and a water-soluble film forming agent, wherein the behavior of release of the antibacterial substance changes depending on humidity,

wherein said humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition comprises an aggregate of hygroscopic spherical-shaped capsule particles enclosing the volatile oily antibacterial substance;

said capsule particles comprise a water-soluble film forming agent; and

said volatile oily antibacterial substance is an isothiocyanate ester.

8. (Withdrawn): A method of storing food characterized in that a volatile oily antibacterial substance is released from a humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to Claim 7 toward food lying in an atmosphere of 70% or higher humidity.

9. (Currently Amended): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to claim 7, wherein the food storing article is selected from the group consisting of synthetic resin film, nonwoven fabric, paper, tray, sheet, bags, containers and tape.

10. (New): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to claim 7, wherein the humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition is coated on the food storing article in a coating film.

11. (New): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to claim 7, wherein the food storing article includes the humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition in a uniformly dispersed state.